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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for Modition wish to have rejected articles returned

Aidermanic Building Legislation.

n demanding a revision of our antiadopted less than ten years after the first cel skeleton building had been erected necessity mostly guided by theory in ming regulations for the new order construction. Meanwhile abundant rience has shown where theory aced to a science, largely through research of a corps of specialists inted by the National Board of Underwriters in conjunction with Federal Government after the Bal-Authority to revise the building code

with the Board of Aldermen. e years ago the board, goaded by blic indignation, voted to entrust the to a commission of ten experts. ding an iron worker, a mason, a arpenter and a plasterer. It was soon vered that more places were deirable on the commission. The assortnt of experts was therefore enlarged nd was at the same time modified character, owing to the ridicule h the commission as originally med had evoked. The revision ission appointed in conformity th the revised resolution spent the r part of two years in preparing the work of some half a dozen of more competent members and Architects. It was cashiered by the under a new commission.

to which it was submitted last week. find this mode of limitation urged now is all the more disquieting because was rejected by the preceding comolssion in favor of the principle of regcerning which the commission has re-mained studiously uncommunicative. What assurance is there that the code as a whole will not be as addled and incompetent as are the sections that have been made public? None, certainly, in the character of the commission. This is composed of two plumbers, one mechanic, five builders, four architects, four engineers, one legal expert, the chief of the Fire Department, and

may be assumed to have a seientific echnical education are in the minority, and are besides, with hardly an exception, unknown men, obscure even in their own professions.

Borough Presidents, represented

The report of the Charter Revision Commission of 1907 said:

" It is manifest that the Board of Aldermen has ignally failed in the performance of the ordinance making duty, which is one of its principal reasons or existence."

The power to enact building laws was ferred on the "municipal legislaby the Greater New York Charter recognition of the demand for home But after three years of code vision by Aldermanic experts many expayers are anxious to save what is of their property values by giving

Scientific Athletics.

Professor KENNELLY of Harvard ofof the difficulties threatening fuinternational meetings owing to in recent events. In the Popular sence Monthly he hints that the imrtance attached to winning a parnlar race and beating a concrete of the "antechronometer days." The

will be fired. As the flag proceeds to who although a Manchu is credited houses of to-day. be no question of "boring" or "pocket- Grand Council. ILY, Per Month...... 80 50 6 00 ing" or of British fair play. The rival There are, indeed, some indications avenues now bright with lobster palaces 2 00 would be bogey instead of Briton. And that among the Manchus who have one sought in vain as late as 10 P. M. debt. This is particularly emphasized s oo since science could easily determine dominated China for two and a half for other than the humblest food. Now by the facts that in assuming control of contests.

relative to the fact that the faster one goes the sooner one has to stop. From the London games he quotes the following figures showing the number of in London at Murray's Exchange. Training in the should be an inn."

Mings, Northumberland avenue: Pall Mail meters covered in a second by the win
being passionately devoted to the tra
The wiser Americans choose an all

ers at	the d	iffere	nt die	stances	
					Meter
					per seco
00 meter	race				
00 meter	race				
00 meter	race		. 17		
00 meter	race				
500 mete	r race				
2,190 met	er (or	Marath	on) ra	ce	
Assur	ning	that	the	winner	alwa

runs himself out, he deduces the law that "the time of exhaustion is inversely as the ninth power of the speed within or some years now the merchants the limits of racing." For instance, if d fire underwriters of this town have SHEPPARD, who ran 1,500 meters in 243 orderly way. seconds at 6.16 meters a second, had ted building code. The code was tried the 100 metre gait of 9.26 meters a second he would have exhausted himself in 10 seconds, or in a twenty-fourth New York, and its compilers were part of the time, while only adding 30 per cent, to his speed. "If a record maker could double his pace he would exhaust himself 512 times more quickly. This law was illustrated by the ignorant sat fault, and fire protection has been British competitors in the Marathon race to the satisfaction of HAYES, who is probably a scientist of a high order. The professor's logarithms pretend. however, that his achievement was not in the same class as those of the other Olympic winners, and it seems that in the future we may look for more lowering of records in the long distance races than in the sprints.

> The Error of an Ambassador. The Right Hon. JAMES BRYCE is speaker of pith and moment, and it surprise, almost a shock, to find him emitting these prejudices of mouldy ancientry at the Chamber of Commerce

"We need to remember that progress in social and economic affairs is necessarily far slower and more difficult than in natural science and its applications. Man is harder to study than nature is, and the habits and the character of mankind change but slowly. It takes a long time traft for a new code. The draft to alter their preconceived ideas, their prejuticated palates, and began to talk in the dices and their suspicions."

So it was in the Holy Roman Empire before you look. Statesmanship beof buildings "in general accordance longs to amateurs. Muckraking needs with the width of the streets." The no apprenticeship. The "Fathers" principle of a flat limitation of the height meant well, but they had not the ad- fication for Mayor are rather curious: buildings therein advanced has long vantages of Chautauqua lectures. They en condemned by competent opinion, were ignorant of government by boaand the commission's proposal was all tion and reboation. Any child pubbut universally denounced at the hear-licist in a magazine can better their instruction.

Mr. BRYCE is a scholar in an old fashioned way, but if he wants to know anything about Nature, Mankind, Progress and Government he needs to consult ulating the cubic content of buildings the rapid fire reformers. Rus, Sterwith reference to their sites. The advocacy of a flat limitation discredits in are many intellectual giants who would nce the rest of the draft code, con- be glad to educate Mr. JAMES BRYCE; and the New Wisdom has her seat in Washington.

China's Advance Seems Assured.

Now that a week has elapsed since the death of the Emperor Kwang Su and the Empress Dowager TsI AN, we may ridiculed as illiterate and ignorant, besay with a close approach to confidence that the change of sovereigns in Pekin as he took himself; and the Lowell is unlikely to be followed by any widespread disturbance or by an abandonment of a progressive programme.

by their respective superintendents of There is no confirmation of the rumor buildings. Those of the members who that Prince Chun, the Regent, is disclosing reactionary tendencies, or that he is inclined to insist that in affairs of State the functions of the Grand Council are merely advisory and that the final decision rests with him. Even were the report to prove well founded we should not be justified in inferring that Prince CHUN is opposed to a progressive policy, for the late Empress Tsi An, the author of the constitutional project, was as autocratic as ever up to the day of her death and was determined to exercise absolute power until the new liberal Government should come into being nine years hence. Up to that time the Grand Council is in in the newspapers that the hotels of theory authorized only to advise; al- this town are crowded, although there though in practice it will naturally pos- is no especial festivity. They are sess much influence with Prince CHUN, home rule in the matter of building who as a young man and a Manchu crowded; one wonders why "overflow lacks familiarity with Chinese ideas

and administrative methods. If it is true that the Regent's edicts are in the handwriting of CHANG CHI them. A New York that is all hotels, rs a suggestion which seems timely in Tung, who was for years the most dis- when it is not heaven kissing business tinguished official in the Yangtse region and who is now a member of the Grand to the homeless rich, who have so many Council, Prince CHUN may be led to adopt the views of that cautious and from intractable servants and house moderate reformer. An earnest advo- hold cares; a summer or winter resort cate of representative institutions. moetitor is old fashioned and savors YUAN SHIH KAI, who used to be Vice- York hotels and the restaurants where roy of Chili and as such organized a mal scientific age demands a strong force, drilled and equipped in ing in public perpetually and expendifferent attitude. The only attempt European fashion, retains at Pekin a sively, are the most necessary necessary really worth while, the professor post of eminence and trust-he also is ries of modern life. How pinched and seems to think, is to have a "try" against a Grand Councillor-although he is parochial the village of fifteen and ten the "record"-a rival which did not the target of incessant and vehement years ago looks to the memory! What exist of yore and he proposes an in- attack on the part of the revolutionists, a procession of names and places that us scheme for actually competing who hold him responsible for the fail- the ancients among us used to venerate,

the winning post in record time the with a desire to see the Chinese Empire

gives some interesting observations long tolerated the House of Hanover; fessional men. but the Manchus as a body must exis not impossible, however, that not place to die in it should be an inn." quickly than the native Chinese, and they are well off. thus turn to account the new system of

government. spectacle that has been presented during the last week by the Middle Kingdom. It is doubtful if in any country on the European continent an abrupt transition from one reign to another, under circumstances which for a time

The Vaulting Ambition of Patrolman Brown.

An Alderman, a former State Senator Lowell primary for the Republican nomination for Mayor. Brown is 32, a veteran of the Santiago and Philippine campaigns, and lives in the suburb law. of Pawtucketville. As Lowell is norvoters balk at the promotion of a plain patrolman from his beat to the chair of authority and the official desk in the City Hall.

When BROWN came out as a candidate with a primitive sense of humor. Policemen, firemen, street cleaners and scavengers could not let Brown alone. The comic paragraphers had no mercy on him. He was "the softest of the family." Brown had no money but his pay envelope, and no organization. He had some cards printed, bought a box of domestic cigars suited to unsophisopen air, from drays, lunch wagons, the City Hall steps, benches in the park. ained the approval of the Board of and before. So it is not in the American and even the sidewalk, which he shared ire Underwriters and of the New York | Commonwealth. Progress is instan- with exhorters of the Salvation Army. pter of the American Institute of taneous change. The character of man- Brown's topics were graft in the de kind can be amended in the time it partments, dry rot in the police force. Board of Aldermen which went into takes to write a message, or repealed by His leave of absence was revoked when office last January. Since then a new act of Congress. Man is easy, espe- he meddled with police administration, fraft has been in process of construc- cially the American variety. We don't and Brown's audiences increased from need to remember anything. Look hundreds to thousands. On Saturday New York had been carried for him. Mr. A sample of the handiwork of this forward and not back, and always leap night before the primary he talked to 10,000 people. When the votes were counted, lo! the "cop's" name led all the rest. Brown's notions of his quali-

" A policeman, if he keeps his eyes open, knows more about what is going on in every department than any other citizen. He knows who is attending to business and who isn't, and he knows aft about the deals that are put up. So I say a police man is well equipped with information that can be put to good use by a conscientious Mayor. If there is graft anywhere, sooner or later the policeman knows about it. Every man likes to tip off the cop on the beat. The policeman is in a position to be a good Mayor if he is earnest

Patrolman Brown pitched into the liquor interests and defied the corporations, which he declared were in league when he charged that every department reeked with politics and no employee was doing his day's work. Brown seems to have led the poll, although cause the voters took him as seriously policeman was desperately in earnest. His primary campaign expenses may have been \$5. He has three weeks to persuade the people of Lowell, almost 50 per cent, of whom in a population of 110,000 are of foreign extraction, that it will be for their interests to elect him Mayor. He is pledged to turn the grafters out and reorganize the police force from commissioners down. He has promised to make the saloon keepers obey the law. As Policeman Brown has a boulder jaw and a fanatical eye, there is reason to believe that he means what he says. He has at least proved the democracy, if not the utility, of the primary law, perhaps its futility.

Hotels of New York.

It seems a little superfluous to record usually crowded; they are always hotels have not been built. Some new palace is rising all the time. Like the restaurants, there cannot be enough of buildings, clubs and theatres. A haven houses that they have no home; a refuge for strangers with "the price," the New New York makes herself happy by eatwith this abstract opponent. A "light ure of the attempt at reform made by or venerate now that they are gone! fing or penuant running beside the track, them in 1898. At that time YUAN SHIR French's, St. Nicholas, Metropolitan,

on a slender wire of steel or bronze" KAI was disposed to concur with the New York, Sinclair, which left us so is to be driven by electricity at "a speed Empress TSI An in believing that lately, Morton, Everett, Fifth Avenue, uniform with the record." After the China was not ripe for radical changes, St. James, Brunswick and their brethhuman competitor has lined up the ma- but after Japan's defeat of Russia both ren: Eheu fugaces! Homely some, \$20,000,000 Cuban loan doubtless came as chinery is to be set in motion, and when of them saw reason to change their modest all, somehow they appear comthe flag travelling along the wire minds. It is likewise reassuring that fortable in the retrospect, but they were closely the situation in the island. More by Dr. Frederick Peterson upon the dangers reaches the starting point the pistol Prince CHING, a veteran statesman hovels, most of them, to the illustrious than two months ago THE SUN intima-

Only a few years back and Fifth averunner will keep his eye on it and by it imitate Japan in adopting Western nue was mostly dark and often beggar regulate his pace. Then there would civilization, remains at the head of the infested, and Broadway scarcely existed above Thirty-fourth street. Along and eliminate the particular equations centuries there is a good deal of mis- the path of light is lengthened and the island we took over the sum of \$13, of various climates and tracks, we imag- giving concerning their ability to main- widespread. The motor car whirls the 600,000 cash on hand, and that the revenues ine that it should be unnecessary to tain ascendency after the advent of lords of the earth from the country cross the ocean to hold international constitutional government. There is to their hotels. Headwaiters are alample ground for such apprehension. most "prominent financiers," and the Apart from the vista of harmony Of course, an alien dynasty may be per- captain of the bellboys has probably a that the Government of intervention is a thus opened up, Professor Kennelly mitted to rule, just as Great Britain has better position than most other pro-

pect to forfeit their present racial from the indispensable BARTLETT- lating to loans shall require two-thirds privileges under a régime of reform. It | "often said that if he were to choose a of the vote of the total number of members ditional study of the Confucian classics sufficing "modern" hotel to live in; and they may absorb Western ideas more they certainly ought to know when

On the whole, it is a remarkable undertake to organize the House.—The Hon Joseph G. Cannon. Nor does anybody else think so; leas of all Mr. TAPT.

While delegates from foreign countries the sessions of the International Opium looked suspicious, could have been Commission that will open its sessions on accomplished in a more peaceful and January 1 it is gratifying to hear from suppression of the cultivation and use of the drug. A reduction of the area under poppy cultivation has been made in many of the provinces. This is due to the new Chinese regulations which impose inand other seasoned politicians have creased taxation upon those farmers who gone down before the carttail harangues fail at once to reduce the area of their of Policeman George H. Brown in the poppy plots, while severer penalties, fines, imprisonment and confiscation of the crop are kept before the eves of those who may persistently fail to make the annual reduction in the crop required by

Another fact that is greatly encouraging mally Republican by a majority of 1,000, China in her undoubtedly sincere efforts BROWN, who had a plurality of 2,830 to stamp out the opium evil is the agreein the primary, seems destined to call ment finally obtained from all the Powers himself Mayor of Lowell, unless the to prohibit the importation of morphia except for medicinal purposes. For some reason Japan delayed long in giving her consent, but it came at last. It has been estimated by physicians that only about one-tenth of the quantity of opium brought into the Western world is used in for Mayor he was the butt of everybody medical prescriptions, and the fulfilment of this agreement among the Powers will mean the removal of one great incentive to the cultivation of the poppy.

This prohibition is to go into effect on Commission begins its sessions. proceedings of this deliberative body will be watched with great interest because it got leave of absence for a fortnight, intends to consider every phase of the opium question and its findings will have great weight in determining the final attitude of the Powers toward the reform which China needs more than all other nations. She began single handed the movement that has led to the international consideration that is about to be given to the great question.

> Will Tammany explain!-Mr. BETAN. If Tammany could not elect CHANLER it could do nothing for BRYAN. Besides, he would have been soundly beaten if becoming an intolerable bore

> Mayor McClellan this afternoon ordered anitary Superintendent Dr. Walter Bensel o take personal charge of the rescue and relief rork.—Story of the explosion in Brooklyn. to take Dr. BENSEL seems to be a municipal

> emergency man, capable and called in to do all sorts of hard jobs. When the Street Cleaning Department seriously needed attention Dr. BENSEL was borrowed to do what was necessary. Now he is selected for a work that would fall naturally to the police. Apparently a handy man to have around is Dr. BENSEL, Sanitary Superintendent.

Ten Years of American Forestry.

In the last ten years forestry has advanced this country from an almost unknown science to tions, which he declared were in league a useful growing profession, says Q. R. Graft of against him. He made a great hit the Forest Service in the year book of the Department of Agriculture. In that time the number of technically trained foresters has increased from less than a dozen to over 100. Ten years ago there was not a single forest school in the country: now there are several professional forest schools which rank with those of Europe and a score ore with courses in elementary forestry whose

sefulness is steadily growing.

Forest lands under management have grown m one or two tracts to many, aggregating 7,503,000 acres in thirty-nine States. The na-tional forests have increased from 38,000,000 practically unused and unprotected, to acres, practically unused and unprotected, to 168,000,000 acres, used, guarded and improved both in productiveness and accessibility. The number of States which have State forests has increased from one to ten, and of those which employ trained foresters from none to eleven The membership of forest associations has in creased from 3,600 to 15,800. Ten years ago, except for a few of the foremost botanists, European foresters knew more about American forests than did the American people. In Europe they were then using preservatives to prolong life of beech ties, and so adding from twenty to forty years to their life. Here, on the other hand, scarcely a treated tie had been laid, whereas there are now sixty treating plants, twenty-seven of which treat ties exclusively, and an engineer who recently returned from Europe reports that both in size and mechanical perfection the treating equipment of this country is ahead of any be found abroad.

Yet American forestry has only passed the experimental stage and got ready to do something.

Action immediate and vigorous must be taken
if the inevitable famine of wood supplies is to be lessened. We are now using as much wood in a single year as grows in three, with only twenty years supply of virgin growth in sight. Only the application of forest knowledge with wise method and energy in the next ten years can prevent the starving of national industries for lack

Whistler Under the White Rose.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The English R. E. Francillon, supplementing the novelist R. E. Francillon, supplementing Pennell "Life of Whistler" with some per collections, mentions as a surprising event career of that artist that he subscribed 1880 to the principles of the "Order of the White Rose" and was enrolled as a "Companion" of the The aim of this order is to support the 'divine right" of kings in all its conlist as Whistler was should wish monarchs as well as other things to be perfect after their own to-day as he was a week ago?

Richard Mausfield as a Prophet. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Apropos of told you so Taft messages in TRE SUN of Sunday, one of the most conspicuous of the original Taft men has so far been overlooked. Ac cording to Richard Mansfield's biographer, the actor at a Chamber of Commerce dinner in this

city in 2908, when Mr. Taft and he were of honor, proposed Mr. Taft as a White DETROIT, Nevember 18. 4

A GUBAN LOAN?

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 .- The news despatches reporting the consideration of a a surprise to many who have not followed ted that something of the kind was on foot. The mere fact that it is necessary to consider the placing of such a loan reveals a serious situation. The United States will cut a very sorry figure in transferring to a new Cuban Government an empty treasury and a new national during the occupation have been the largest in Cuba's history.

is to be effected. It is officially declared tion. The third section of Article LIX. of "Archbishop LEIGHTON"-we draw that instrument reads: "All action reof each colegislative body." That would seem to limit the power of the Provisional Government in such a matter and prohibit the placing of a loan by executive decree. Such a decree would be a flagrant nullification of our prescribed rights and powers in the island. Will the newly elected Cuban Congress be called together to act on the matter before the transfer? Suppose that it met and declined or failed to act. Are we to impose the making of a loan upon the new Administration as a condition of a transfer of control? Suppose that General Gomez are already starting for Pekin to attend should decline or hesitate to accept the control of a financial wreck?

It is difficult to see just how such a loan

The United States has maintained peace and order in Cuba for two years just as China that progress is being made in the the Cubans themselves did for the first four years of their independence. Some much needed organic laws have been passed. A few other necessary things have been done, but Cuba's money has been spent with an utter disregard of economy and possible consequences. Cuba is now carrying a national debt of about \$50,000,000. To increase that by \$20,000,000 with no other authority

than that of an order of the President of the United States, or to compel the Cubans to agree to effect such a loan as a condition of our withdrawal, would be a disgraceful use of the powers granted by Article III. of the Platt Amendment, and an offence to every principle of international morals, to say nothing of the increase in the taxes of an overtaxed people.

NOT FIGHTING UNION LABOR. Purposes of the National Association Manufacturers Defended.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir would like to answer Mr. David Mackay' letter to THE SUN of November 18 dealing with the National Association of Manufac

Like all other officers of the Federation This prohibition is to go into effect on of Labor, Mr. Mackay assumes that the the day that the International Opium National Association of Manufacturers is body organized to destroy labor union If they could look into the matter a little they would find that the organization was in existence long before it took up labor questions. The organization's objects have been to promote and protect American industries, and its aim has always been to use its influence when it could accomplish these purposes.

In the course of events labor organizations assumed the right to say who should work, how long one should work, and what one's output should be. When furthe labor unions became powerful enough to enact laws that increased taxation and cost of living, powerful enough by their disapproval of a man or his product to destroy his credit and his business, powerful enough to attempt to enact laws that would change the judiciary, when through their official organs and the preaching of their officers convinced the working people that "capital" was the enemy of "labor," and deavored to place the employed in a class" by themselves, then and not until then did any organization of employers come out boldly and oppose these wrongs

that were being perpetrated by organized labor on the public as a whole.

When the National Association of Manufacturers did move it was at an annual convention held at New Orleans, where resolutions were passed condemning the closed shop and the contract to employ only unionists as uneconomic and un-American and advocating the principle of the open shop in the most emphatic manner. This was advocating the principle of the open shop in the most emphatic manner. This was the beginning of a battle royal which has been waged in the courts and in the Legislatures from that time to this, with the result that at the present time the labor organizations are enjoined from picketing and boycotting, and Mr. Gompers, the federation's president, and Mr. Mitchell, a vice-president, are being tried for contempt of court.

The labor organizations in venting their spite on Mr. Perry, the former president of the National Association of Manufacturers, and Mr. Van Cleave, the president, showed poor judgment; but the presumption is that by personal attacks on the associat-

of the National Association of Manufacturers, and Mr. Van Cleave, the president, showed poor judgment; but the presumption is that by personal attacks on the association's officers Mr. Gompers expected to frighten members into withdrawing their support and to prevent others from joining the organization. He did succeed in frightening away the timid, but the influx of members with red blood in their veins more than made up for their loss.

The National Association of Manufacturers has never in meetings or in any literature issued said a word that by the widest stretch of the imagination could be construed to mean that it objected to organized labor per se. Neither Mr. Perry nor Mr. Van Cleave ever in any way discriminated against a man on account of his affiliations with a labor union, and the writer will venture the assertion, with assurance that it cannot be disproved, that there is not and has not been a manufacturers' or employers' association in the United States that objects to labor organizing for purposes not detrimental to business and business principles. Further, the writer has in the last ten years discussed this subject with the largest employers of labor in the country, and never has he met a manufacturer who did not express the sentiment that labor organizations "properly conducted" would be beneficial to all concerned.

The trouble seems to be that many of the officials of unions fail to understand

tions "properly conducted" would be beliefficial to all concerned.

The trouble seems to be that many of the officials of unions fail to understand that the "picket" and the "boycott" are force and that the only thing that will be tolerated from this time on is reason. Mr. Gempers and Mr. Mackay should study the matter a little, and try to understand what Mr. Van Cleave, the National Association of Manufacturers and employers generally mean when they say that they do not object to labor organization "properly conducted." Then they should try to adjust their organizations to conditions as they are, and not waste energy trying to accomplish what by all known economic laws is impossible.

BROOKLINE, Mass., November 19.

BROOKLINE, Mass., November 19. Deacon Hemphill Celebrates Charleston

From the Charleston News and Courier.
Admiral Dickins of the United States navy after some forty years or so in the service, and eing all the countries of the world, has declared of Charleston that "there is simply no comparis between it and any other place of which we have any knowledge," and that is the reason we have wanted Mr. Taft to come here so that he might be the better prepared for the riotous life he must lead in Washington after the 4th of next March He will find a good many South Carolinians in Augusta and some respectable Georgians, "ex-cellent human companionship," in the words of TEE SUN. He will also find North Augusta i South Carolina a place of great merriment at times, but it if is really his desire to enjoy the full tide of life he should come to Charle gretted that he should hesitate about changing his hibernating quarters simply because plans are already made to go to Augusta."

We do not know why in the world he made any such plans in the first place, and in the secondace we have no doubt he would be release rom his engagements upon the proper presents tion of this case. Thousands of Augusta people come to Charlesion every summer, and we are always glad to see them, but glorious as Charles-ton is in the summer time it is even more heavenly ing the winter months

THE USE OF ALCOHOL.

Dr. Peterson's Diatribe Analyzed by

Advocate of Temperance. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: SUN of November 18 contained an address of alcoholism. I am not acquainted Dr. Peterson, but have no reason to doubt his eminence as a scientific teacher. I am no scientist myself and have no desire, if it were possible, to controvert his theories In fact the argument against alcoholism cannot be put too strongly; but what im presses me in that address as printed is that like many similar addresses it overworks the post hoc propter hoc argument and by so doing weakens the force of the whole address.

Dr. Peterson admits that it is in doubt whether alcohol is a food or not, but rather dogmatically says that if it is a food it is a olsonous food, because it contains poisonous elements. Has that been proved, that is, that it is a poisonous food affecting the human system, any more than various drinks and articles in common use which contain poisonous elements? I had aupposed that that was one of the points still at issue among scientists and that it was quite possible that the poisonous element might be so combined that as food even alcohol in moderate quantites had not been proved to be injurious.

Dr. Peterson says that the use of alcohol "diminishes the intellectual functions by dulling the creative faculty, impairing judgment, vitiating the correctness of per ceptions and by generating timidity." that be proved as a scientific fact, or is it an assertion which if not capable of proof essentially impairs the whole argument? Is it not a fact that nearly all the great writers and thinkers of the past and many of the present time habitually have or do use alcohol in some form, and is there anything to show that their work would have been better had they abstained? non-scientist the argument seems dan

But the manner in which the doctor handles statistics is most impressive in its apparent weakness. He says that out of their insanity to alcohol, and he draws the inference that out of 150,000 insane in asylums of the United States 30,000 are insane on account of alcohol.

That may be quite true, and if true is a startling fact, but what does it show on the general subject of insanity? Seventy per cent., it appears, are insane who abstained from alcohol. Does that prove that they are insane because they abstained? If not, how can it be assumed that the other 30 per cent. are insane because they did not abstain? To a layman there seems a screw loose somewhere in the argument. Again, out of 2,500 idiots, imbeclies, epi-

leptics, &c., in the Bicetre Hospital, Dr drunken parents. How about the other 59 per cent.? If it proves that 41 per cent were imbecile, epileptic, &c., because of drunken parents, as mere argument would it not be just as conclusive to assume that 59 per cent. were imbecile, epileptic, &c., because they were of soher parents? Ap-parently here is a post hoc propter hoc that does not work. Again, he says that Professor Hodge tried

alcohol as a food with dogs, and that among twenty-three pups of one pair of alcoholize dogs nine were born dead, eight deformed and only four were normal. Waiving the question whether alcohol necessarily works the same with human beings and animals, does it really prove anything that the litter of one pair of dogs showed the above re-Can you generalize from one pair in that way, or is it not quite possible that some other pair of dogs not alcoholized might show the same results? Now, I deprecate the curse of alcohol as

much as any one and appreciate honest effort to remove this bane of humanity, but can it be done by overstatement or by arguments that seem logically so weak that they create a doubt as to the real results of scientific investigation? It is improbable that truth can be elicited

and real reform brought about unless ardent zealots confine their statements to positive of "Thaddeus of Warsaw," of the "Anproof and handle their statistics in such a musis," of many matters that were treway that they carry conviction to the lay

I wish merely to point out the danger of generalizing and drawing definite conclu-

WINSLOW WARREN. BOSTON, November 19.

Do Hedgehogs Milk Cows?

From the London Standard.
In order to settle a discussion that has recently

taken place at Ash on the question whether hedge lying down, a letter of inquiry was address the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, and at on Monday evening the following reply was read: I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to inform you that your letter of the 11th uit has been referred to their zoological dviser and the board are informed that the statement that hedgehogs take the milk that are lying down is unfounded in fact. It is an old fallacy, which was mentioned in the 'New Catalogue of Vulgar Errors,' publish ago by Stephen Fovarque, M. A. The dentition the hedgehog marks it as insectivorous, feeding on insects and small mammais, including such harmful forms as mice. Their liking for insects is well known and they are frequently kept in houses for the purpose of clearing off cockroaches. They cannot, however, be described as harmless. as they have been proved to take the eggs of poultry and game birds, such as partridges and sheasants, while chickens and hens in coops are killed and worried. Hedgehogs were stated by Gilbert White to destroy plantains at Selborne but although this has been quoted by several publications it has been contradicted by Rustious,' who stated, on the authority of Harting, that the destruction of plantains was the work of a night feeding caterpillar, which ate the ro left the leaves. Foxes and badgers are natural shecks to the numbers of the hedgehog."

From the London Daily Graphic.
"A park without a deer," wrote Richard Jefferies, is like a wall without pictures," and it is something to know that in England there are 400 parks containing deer; that they average many hundreds and some of them thousands of acres and that Yorkshire, Gloucestershire, Stafford shire, Northants and Sussex have more enclosed land given up to deer than any other counties omething peculiarly national abou our deer parks, for soon after the Conquest the barons began to enclose parks within the forests and to include within them all the wild animals that could be thus secured. Of these the 2,500 acres of park at Eridge is the only one mentioned esday Book as containing deer then as it

In that now scarce book Shirley's "English Deer Parks" forty-eight parks are mentioned which no longer contain deer; but since that ook was published in 1867 several parks have ed which did not then and there are others in which the deer have been

Cow Farming in Calcutta. From Daily Consular and Trade Reports. There is a spiendid opening near Calcutta for

it least two real up to date dairy farms. The Europeans of Calcutta depend on one dairy farm or milk and butter, and this farm is a day's run by rall from the city. Compared with the native milk and any other butter obtainable here the product of this farm is first class, but com-pared with the products of American dairy farms is is third class. The custom of leading a sow on customer to customer and milking be

Confusion of Tongues in India. From Daily Consular and Trade Reports.

India has about 150 different languages, most of m unwritten, and it not unfrequ that Indians drift into Calcutta who can find no one able to understand their vernacular. Not ittle trouble is caused by such visitors gants and witnesses who talk a language that either the Court nor the court interpreters un

First Piano West of Mississippi. From the Kansas City Times.

The first piano ever brought west of the Mis-sissippi was exhibited in Jackson, Cape Girardeau county, recently. Lit was brought by Major Geo Frederick Bollinger for his daughter in 1816.

NEW BOOKS. Miss Repplier Reviews a Happy Time,

From 1775 to 1825-that was the time when it paid to be literary. That was the time preeminently deserving of the adjective employed in the title of Miss Agnes Repplier's delightful book of essays, "A Happy Half Century" (Houghton Mifflin Company). It is well known that Miss Repplier has her habit of irony, but she lays it aside on occasion, and we find her declaring here of her happy half century: "It was a time when literary reputations were so cheaply gained that nobody needed to despair of one. A taste for platitudes, a tinge of Pharisaism, an appreciation of the commonplace—and the thing was done." But having heard this very plain opinion from Miss Repplier, what now do we hear Mrs. Cowley declaring? Mrs. Cowley was one of the happy literary producers of that happy time. Writing of her associates in happiness, she called attention to "the proud preeminence which, in all the varieties of excellence produced by the pen, the pencil or the lyre, the ladies of Great Britain have attained over contemporaries in every other country in Europe." Miss Repplier examines into this matter of a proud preeminence. There was Anna Letitia Barbauld, whose novels were events and whose poem attacking slavery pictured the West Indian ladies exercising their hateful power.

Lo! where reclined, pale Beauty courts the breeze Diffused on sofas of voluptue

Hear her and behold her With languid tones imperious mandates urge, With arm recumbent wield the household scourge. It was Mrs. Barbauld who wrote in a chapter of advice to young girls: "An ass is much better adapted than a horse to

show off a young lady." She was good, but she could hardly have been as distinguished as Hannah More, who is very interestingly considered here. Miss More during her long life was fairly smothered in praise. Garrick called her "Nine." meaning that all the muses were combined in her; and when her "Estimate of the Religion of the Fashionable World was published anonymously the discerning Bishop of London exclaimed in Latin: "Either More or an angel!" Twenty thousand copies of "Colebs in Search of a Wife" were sold in England, and 30,000 in America. Consider the glow of this fact supplementing the observations of

Garrick and the Bishop! Miss Lydia Languish in "The School for Scandal" pretended that she had been reading Mrs. Chapone's book of instructions for improving the mind, a work that was almost painfully famous once upon a time; and Mrs. Montagu, who gave dinners, and who was called "the female Mæcenas of Hill street" by Hannah More, wrote letters which were published in four volumes after the dinners had made an end of her. Miss Benger is here, the young authoress who invited Charles Lamb to tea and about who he wrote so rudely. Not every-body had the limitations of Charles Lamb. Miss Jane Porter and Miss Wesley, John Wesley's niece, liked Miss Benger's literary teas. Lamb wrote to Coleridge about "that mopsey, Miss He is not to be pardoned, Wesley. though to be sure she had a "habit of sending her effusions to be read by pe-

luctant men of letters." He might at

least have been glad to see Miss Porter,

who was thought to be handsome, and

of whom Miss Mitford was discoursing

when she wrote that here anyway was

one literary lady "who didn't look like a scarecrow to keep birds from cherries." Miss Repplier writes of "Lalla Rookh," mendously influential with our greatgrandmothers. She establishes her pictures always very effectively. mosaics made up of a thousand bits that she has selected with discernment and combined with entire skill. It is amusing enough, after three lines of young Mr. Channing's accusatory thunder against Moore, cited from the North American, to hear from the later and more temperate essayist: "Nothing could make a moralist of Moore. The light hearted creature was a model of kindness, of courage, of conjugal fidelity; but reversing the common rule of life-he preached none of the virtues that he practised." But she is always amusing-amusing and interesting, and wise as well. Her book

is admirable. Heinze's Mina. From Colmuetz.

The realistic detail in Clara Viebig's story of "Our Daily Bread," translated from the German by Margaret L. Clarke (John Lane Company), will fairly overwhelm the reader. We read here of Heinze's Mina-that is to say of Wilhelmina Heinze, a peasant maiden twenty-two years old, who for the relief of a too numerous family went from Golmütz to Berlin to seek work. She was tall, bony and broad shouldered and could carry a hundredweight of potatoes on her back. She took along a handsome present of twelve dozen eggs for her Aunt Rezobke. who conducted a grocery business in the basement at 8 Göbenstrasse in the German capital, and believed that she would be affectionately received. In this belief she was not precisely justified, as the story sets forth in minute and interesting manner. It goes on describing with unrestricted realism the life in Berlin of Mina and of those like her, among them pretty Bertha, who loved sweets, including sweet liquors, and whose fingers were nimble at stealing, and Gertie, who went to the theatre with Leo Selinger and astonished that young gentleman by the urgency of her emotions when the theatre was over. When Mina had married she and her husband came near starving. and once there was a desperate scene when her husband got drunk and offered to kill her. The daily bread came to be a doubtful matter in Mina's case, but when it was needed very sorely indeed kind children appeared with a full basket, and that was the turning of the tide. The story is remarkable. There is much

in it that will keep the reader very sharply interested. A Capital Philipotts Story.

Mr. Eden Phillpotts's story of "The Virgin in Judgment" (Moffat, Yard and Company) is full of the interest that the great skill of this novelist is bound to afford. We have at the beginning a page or two of that description of the Devenshire country which is inevitably so go. that we cannot possibly find fault because it is familiar. When the reader comes to the account of the prizefight arranged by Mr. Fogo, the aged London expert in matters of the kind, he will be immensely entertained. The feelings of Mr. Fogo, his choicest professional feelings, were outraged when he learned that David Bowden, one of the principals in the fight, was determined to have his sister Rhoda, the handsome young virgin of the title, for bottle holder. At first Mr. Fogo declined to believe that the proposition was made in serious-ness. "Blow my dickey!" said he to David; "that's the first knockdown for